

Seeding Indoors

You need: Seeds, starting pots (plastic cells, newspaper pots, yogurt cups with drainage holes, etc.), starting mix (may include peat, vermiculite, fine worm castings), drain tray, spray bottle.

Process: Fill starting pots with pre-moistened starting mix. In each pot, make a shallow indentation into the starting mix with your finger and place one seed into each hole. Seeds should be covered to a depth of 2-3 times the diameter of the seed. Label pots. Mist with water from spray bottle. Keep moist but not water-logged. Assemble pots in seeding tray; place in cool room or out of direct sunlight (for fall varieties, germination best between 50-80°F). Once seedlings emerge, move to sunny location.

Up-potting

You need: Pots that are 2"-4" wide, potting mix (may include peat, perlite, compost, pine bark, worm castings, fertilizer, and other nutrient amendments).

Process: Once seedlings develop "true" leaves, they can be moved into larger pots. Fill pots halfway with well-moistened potting mix. Carefully remove seedling from starting pot (a butter knife helps) and place in larger pot. Add additional potting mix until seedling is secure, standing straight, and all roots are covered.

Transplanting

You need: Small spade, compost.

Process: Once plant has established strong roots and is about the height of its pot, it can be transplanted into the garden. Allow plant to "harden-off" by placing outdoors a week before transplanting to adjust to wind, sunlight, and varying temperatures. Prepare garden with compost and other soil amendments. Dig small hole and place plant with potting mix in hole, following plant spacing requirements. Cover up roots and keep moistened, but not water-logged.

Direct Seeding

(See Fall Planting Dates for varieties to direct seed)

You need: Seeds, compost, garden space, rake.

Process: Prepare raised bed for seeding by raking the soil or remove large soil debris by hand. Make a shallow trench or lightly press seed into soil, following seed spacing requirements. Cover seed with soil to a depth of 2-3 times the diameter of the seed. Gently water.

Participating Libraries

Dr. B.L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library

2817 South Adams St., Tallahassee, FL 32301
850.606.2950

Eastside Branch Library

1583 Pedrick Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32317
850.606.2750

Jane G. Sauls Fort Braden Branch Library

16327 Blountstown Hwy., Tallahassee, FL 32310
850.606.2900

Lake Jackson Branch Library

3840 North Monroe St., Tallahassee, FL 32303
850.606.2850

LeRoy Collins Leon County Main Library

200 West Park Ave., Tallahassee, FL 32301
850.606.2665

Northeast Branch Library

5513 Thomasville Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32312
850.606.2800

Woodville Branch Library

8000 Old Woodville Rd., Tallahassee, FL 32305
850.606.2925



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Fall, 2020

Leon County Seed Library



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*Cosmic Purple Carrots
Sustainable Seed Company*



*Five Color Silverbeet Swiss Chard
Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company*

**Check out seeds from
any Leon County library**

What Is a Seed Library?

A **seed library** is an institution that lends or shares seeds. Seed libraries are designed to promote gardening and develop seeds that can become acclimated to our local climate.

Why have a seed library?

- Provides free fruit and vegetable seeds to the community
- Encourages gardening
- Educates people about gardening
- Creates community

Why have a garden?

- Enjoy a highly nutritious diet
- Save money on produce
- Know where your food is coming from
- Explore a new source of exercise and relaxation
- Learn new skills
- Build soil and give life to the lawn
- Save seed to build local resilience and genetic diversity

Checking Out Seeds

Check out seeds at the County Main Library or any of the branch libraries.

Checking out sample-size seed packets is as easy as checking out a book. Use your library card to check out up to three seed packets each month; they are yours to keep.

Library cards are free to all Leon County residents and property owners. Apply for a card in person at any library.

For more information:

www.LeonCountyLibrary.org

Fall Varieties

Seeds are open-pollinated (by insects, birds, wind) or self-pollinated in the flower. If not crossed with another variety, seeds they produce grow true to form. For Fall 2020:

Broccoli: Calabrese

Large central head with many side shoots

Carrots: Cosmic Purple

Bright purple skin, yellow and orange flesh

Chard: Five Color Silverbeet

"Rainbow Chard" colors are pink, yellow, orange, red, and white, very mild

Collards: Georgia Green

Vates type, great for sandy soils, resistant to heat

Kale: Lacinato (Dinosaur)

Cold tolerant, dark green, long, sweet leaves

Lettuce: Buttercrunch Bibb

Heat tolerant, dark green buttery leaves, compact

Parsley: Giant of Italy

Large-leaf, Italian strain with great flavor

Radishes: Easter Egg

Round, mix of colors, stays crisp and mild when large

Fall Planting Dates

	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
Broccoli	S	SDT	DT	DT			S
Carrots	D	D	D		D		D
Chard		SD	SDT	SDT			
Collards	S	SDT	DT	DT			
Kale	S	SDT	DT	DT			
Lettuce	S	SDT	SDT	SDT	ST	ST	ST
Parsley		D	D	D			
Radishes		D	D	D	D	D	D

Calendar Key:

Planting Method:

D= Direct Seed

S= Seed indoors, transplant later

T= Transplant

Color Code:

Overall Good Planting Time

Risky Planting Time

Needs Frost Protection

Needs Shade Cloth

Developed from the Red Hills Small Farm Alliance and Full Earth Farm Planting Calendar



*Lacinato Kale
Southern Exposure Seed Exchange*



*Giant of Italy Parsley
Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company*

Growing Questions?

Ask Your Leon County Extension Office:
850.606.5200

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